UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/280
8 August 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
Item 40 of the provisional agenda*

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRM AND LASTING PEACE AND PROGRESS IN FASHIONING A REGION OF PEACE, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

Letter dated 6 August 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a declaration which was today issued by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the peace process in Guatemala.

I would be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 40 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) John H. F. CAMPBELL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/51/150.

96-20206 (E) 120896 130896

/...

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Presidency Declaration dated 6 August 1996 on behalf of the European Union on the peace process in Guatemala

The European Union welcomes the progress made in the negotiations between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca to end the long conflict which the country has endured. The EU pays tribute to the spirit of responsibility and to the understanding reached by the two sides, which are a good example of the peace culture which should influence Guatemala in this new phase.

The European Union reiterates its political support for the peace process and encourages the two sides to pursue their negotiating efforts. The EU wishes to emphasize to Guatemalan society as a whole, and in particular the economic sector, the importance of the challenge which it will have to face, when peace has been agreed, regarding a major national project for the country's development.

The European Union is prepared to give its support to the Guatemalan people after the signature of a peace accord to help it to implement the agreements reached.

Liechtenstein, Norway and the associated countries Cyprus, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia align themselves with this declaration.